



**JOINT TRAINING COUNCIL MEETING  
BUILDING CODE TRAINING COUNCIL AND FIRE MARSHAL TRAINING COUNCIL**

**October 16, 2013 Minutes**

Chairman Loos called the meeting to order at 2:10 p.m.

**Members present:**

Building Members: Mary Ann Basile, Joe Cassidy, Thomas DiBlasi, Dan Loos (Chair), Thomas, Manning, Mark Mastropasqua, Henry Miga, Eric Schoonmaker

Fire Members: William Abbott, Jamie DiPace, Victor Mitchell, Jeff Morrissette, Tim Tharau

Office of Education and Data Management: Craig Russell, Bonnie Becker, Doug Schanne,

Member introductions were provided by both councils. A quorum was present.

**Approval of May 1, 2013 Minutes:** A motion was made by Tom Manning and seconded by Joe Cassidy to approve the minutes. All in favor. Henry Miga abstained. The motion was carried.

Communications: No communications were received.

The meeting began with **Staff Reports**.

**OFFICE OF EDUCATION AND DATA MANAGEMENT (OEDM)**

Bonnie Becker thanked everyone in OEDM to covering responsibilities while she was on extended leave recently, particularly Beth Potts. Beth has now taken another job with the Dept. of Children and Families so OEDM is in the process of refilling that position. Bonnie reviewed statistics for the Spring Career Development: 5,966 people registered and 4,252 actually attended. Walk-ins were 931, no shows were 2,652 (44%). Actual records updated were 4,565; this was for both building and fire participants.

Bonnie also reviewed statistics for this semester's Career Development, the 2011 NEC Chapters 3-4 changes, Liquefied Petroleum Gas Properties and Potential Hazards (very good reviews), Fatal Fire, IRC Significant Changes, Residential Plan Review, 2012 IMC, Fire Enforcement Review, outside continuing credit reviewed. Currently working on CBOA/CFMA Educational Conference for November 26, 2013; registration forms should be sent out in the near future.

Doug Schanne clarified that 2,970 outside credit applications had been processed by OEDM. He complimented Maria Baez for her assistance and support. He clarified the reason for licensure revocation is usually lack of needed educational credits.



**JOINT TRAINING COUNCIL MEETING October 16, 2013**  
**BUILDING CODE TRAINING COUNCIL AND FIRE MARSHAL TRAINING COUNCIL**

Page 2

Design and Trade Conference was held on May 30, 2013. Working on 2014 Career Development Program. This should be ready sometime in November for distribution. Spring Pre-Cert program for Fire Investigation Module will run 1/29/14 to 3/17/14. Fire Inspector Module, Hazardous Material and Fire Safety Code will run 4/2/14 to 1/20/15 and notices should be sent out within the next few weeks and posted on the website.

Craig Russell reported the pre-licensure program was postponed until September due to the updates of the codes. The pre-cert program will also go through an update. Pre-Licensure is undergoing an update, reorganization and rewrite of the program. The pre-licensure program is undergoing a rewrite of program objectives using the Gagney and Briggs Model. They are looking at introducing practical exercises and activities to keep students more engaged throughout the program, case studies, plan review exercises, checklists, field trips, etc. IPC and IMC drafts are complete. They are mid-way through the 2012 IRC, which is being reviewed by a working group and field expertise. Looking at bringing in an instructional expert to improve our presentation and test materials. We are currently updating our test bank, updating code references, interpretive questions, case studies, etc. IRC and IECC should be complete by the end of November. IBC should be done by end of June. NEC should be done by the end of March. It should be ready for release by the end of September. We hope to coordinate with the CT Legislature regarding CT Addendums and incorporate those into our presentations. Target is by the end of July 2014.

**OFFICE OF STATE FIRE MARSHAL (OSFM)**

Bill Abbott advised that he has stepped in since Robert Ross retired. OSFM is working on the 2012 code revisions and HAZMAT regs to have them ready by 2015. There is an NFPA1 Committee meeting this Friday regarding coordination and going forward.

**OFFICE OF STATE BUILDING INSPECTOR (OSBI)**

Joe Cassidy reported that the 2013 Amendment is now at Regulation Review. We are on the November agenda and hope to meet our target date of December 31, 2013 so we will be using the 2009 IRC and 2011 NEC. We are working with the Code Amendment Subcommittee to finish up the 2012 Family to become the 2015 State Building Code and anticipate this to be done by early 2014, at which time we can coordinate with the Fire Safety Code and Fire Prevention Code to make sure Hazmat, etc. all work together. Tentative target cycle of 9-12 months would give a tentative date to get into the Regulation Review process time during 2015. The websites have been updated. We revised the Building Code adoption webpage. Feedback has been good. Fire Safety Code will be next.

Dan Loos discussed reissuing a letter distributed by Chris Laux in 2003 to Chief Executive Officers. The content of that memo addressed the duties and responsibilities of Building Officials. Joe Cassidy advised a draft should be out this month.



**JOINT TRAINING COUNCIL MEETING October 16, 2013**  
**BUILDING CODE TRAINING COUNCIL AND FIRE MARSHAL TRAINING COUNCIL**

Page 3

The meeting then moved to **Old Business**.

The Fire Marshal Training Council had no report.

Building Code Training Council report by Dan Loos. They met on 9/24/13 and were given a Pre-Licensure Program update by Craig Russell. Discussion again was held on reissue of Christopher Laux's letter re Building Official duties and responsibilities. There was also a discussion about the size of venues and a request was made at that meeting for OEDM to see if they could use venues that were large enough to accommodate bigger classes. Volunteer facilities have limited capacity (100-120 individuals) at no charge. Only 4-5 venues can hold 250-300 individuals and those often have costs associated to use their facility.

A second issue discussed at that meeting was the length of career development classes (5-6 hrs. per day).

The meeting then moved to **New Business**.

Dan Loos asked to discuss the OEDM budget approval for upcoming fiscal year. Craig Russell reported that at The Board of Control meeting several months ago the budget was reviewed and approved for the year. Fees will remain at 26 cents.

Mary Ann Basile shared concerns from the Building Code Training Council, including that Pre-Licensure is being re-written and the amount of resources going to Pre-Licensure. A second concern was to pursue web-based training—to get electronic media on the Pre-Licensure website. Craig Russell advised that a meeting was held with CT Distance Learning Center, Bonnie Becker and himself. Costs for on-line training development is quite high. OEDM may explore running a pilot program for a couple of Pre-Licensure courses. Craig Russell will email the whole budget to committee members per their request. Jamie DiPace asked for confirmation that the budget will be sent out. Joe Cassidy said yes.

Henry Miga commented on the aging Building Official population and the need to prepare for upcoming retirements and turnover in the next 5-10 years. The pool of training people to get on-site and hands-on training is not keeping pace the way it had been in the past. Is there a pool of people that would be able to step into these positions without having some of the training?

**Confirmation of next meeting:** None.



**JOINT TRAINING COUNCIL MEETING October 16, 2013**  
**BUILDING CODE TRAINING COUNCIL AND FIRE MARSHAL TRAINING COUNCIL**

Page 4

A motion was made and seconded to adjourn. All in favor. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned.

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Dan Loos, Chair  
Building Code Training Council

Absent from meeting  
Rev. Edward Hyland, Chair  
Fire Marshal Training Council

Building Code Training Council\Joint BCTC-FMTC 10-16-13 Minutes